

Message Text

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14

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 COA-02 L-03 IO-14 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 COME-00 CEQ-02 INT-08 SMI-01

DODE-00 DRC-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 NSC-10 AF-10

ARA-16 NEA-10 /131 W

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O R 270608Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8948

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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PASS NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE, WASHDC/BROUILLARD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, EFIS, OCON, UR, JA

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION (IWC)

REF: TOKYO 16559, STATE 248444, TOKYO 13587

1. JAPAN FISHERY AGENCY SUBMITTED COMMENTS APPARENTLY SOME TIME AGO TO FONOFF WHICH EXPECTED TO FORM BASIS JAPAN'S REPLY TO U.S. NOTE. AS REPORTED REFTEL A, FONOFF UNABLE TO FOCUS ON WHALING ISSUE DUE TO ENERGY CRISIS.

2. YONEZAWA, COUNSELOR, JFA, CLAIMS "HIGHLY UNLIKELY" JAPAN WILL RECONSIDER OBJECTIONS TO IWC RECOMMENDATIONS.

3. OFFICE PRIME MINISTER HAS RECEIVED NUMEROUS LETTERS (ABOUT 200) FROM U.S. PUBLIC CRITICIZING JAPAN ON WHALING ISSUE. GOJ PLANS TO RESPOND TO EACH LETTER. RESPONSIBILITY OF PREPARING RESPONSE ASSIGNED TO JFA.

4. YONEZAWA PROVIDED RFA DRAFT OF LETTER TO BE SENT TO U.S. PUBLIC.

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TEXT REPRODUCED IN FULL BELOW.

5. BEGIN TEXT: I AM WRITING IN REPLY TO YOUR LETTER ADDRESSED TO OUR PRIME MINISTER WITH RESPECT TO JAPANESE WHALING OPERATIONS.

5A. IT APPEARS FROM YOUR LETTER YOU ARE CONVINCED THAT THE WHALE RESOURCES NOW BEING UTILIZED BY JAPAN AND MANY OTHER EUROPEAN, SOUTH AMERICAN AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES ARE THREATENED WITH EXTINCTION. SUCH BEING THE CASE, I SHOULD LIKE TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING PLAIN FACTS, WHICH I HOPE WILL AT LEAST INDUCE YOU TO QUESTION THE VALIDITY OF YOUR CONCLUSION.

5B(1). LEADING SCIENTISTS IN THE WORLD CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH WHALE RESEARCH ARE ALL AWARE ON THE BASIS OF SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE THAT THE ALLEGATION BY EXTREME PROTECTIONIST GROUPS THAT CONTINUED WHALING LEADS TO THE EXTINCTION OF THE RESOURCE IS NOT TRUE.

5B(2). YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT SCIENTISTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION (CONSISTING OF 14 MEMBER NATIONS, MOSTLY NON-WHALING COUNTRIES) AGREED UNANIMOUSLY AFTER EXTENSIVELY REVIEWING THE SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE AT THE ANNUAL MEETINGS HELD RECENTLY, IN 1972 AND 1973, THAT THERE IS NO SCIENTIFIC JUSTIFICATION FOR THE IMPOSITION OF MORATORIUM ON WHALING. YOU SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE (IF YOU HAVE NOT YET BEEN ADVISED BY YOUR FRIENDS) OF THE FACT THAT THIS FORUM OF SCIENTISTS OF THE COMMISSION WAS PRESIDED BY A HIGHLY RESPECTED PROFESSOR FROM AN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY AND ATTENDED BY SCIENTISTS FROM THE UNITED STATES, CANADA, FRANCE AND OTHER NON-WHALING COUNTRIES, IN ADDITION TO SCIENTISTS FROM WHALING COUNTRIES.

5B(3). THE DECISION OF THIS WORLD SCIENTIFIC BODY WAS UNANIMOUS, WITH NO ABSTENTIONS OR RESERVATIONS.

5C. ON THE BASIS OF THE ABOVE FACTS, I HOPE YOU WOULD NOW AGREE WITH ME THAT THE ACCUSATION TO DISCREDIT THE COMMISSION SCIENTISTS THAT

THEY ARE ALL LINKED WITH THE WHALING INDUSTRY IS TOTALLY GROUNDLESS.

5D. WHALING IS NOW REGULATED BY STRICT CONSERVATION MEASURES BY THE IWC SO THAT CATCHES OF WHALES IN THE ANTARCTIC AND NORTH PACIFIC ARE WELL WITHIN REASONABLE LIMITS TO PROTECT EACH AND EVERY SPECIES. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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5.E. FINALLY, I WISH TO STATE THAT IT IS OUR FIRM VIEW THAT PEOPLE ENGAGED IN WHALING IN JAPAN AND IN MANY OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD SHOULD NOT BE DENIED THEIR LEGITIMATE RIGHT TO PURSUE THEIR LIVELIHOOD AND PROFESSION TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY OBSERVE SOUND CONSERVATION PRACTICES.

5.F. THEIR RIGHTS SHOULD BE RESPECTED JUST AS MUCH AS THE RIGHTS OF

THE PEOPLE IN CHICAGO'S SLAUGHTER HOUSES TO CONTINUE THEIR PROFESSION, AND CERTAINLY NOT LESS THAN THE RIGHTS OF SPORTSMEN TO HUNT WILD ANIMALS JUST FOR FUN. END TEXT.

6. QUESTION OF WHO WILL SIGN LETTER NOT YET RESOLVED. ONE POSSIBILITY IS DIRECTOR GENERAL ARAKATSU, JFA.

7. LETTER STILL IN DRAFT FORM AND THERE MAY BE CHANGES MADE BEFORE FINALLY RELEASED. POST REQUESTS DRAFT TEXT NOT BE CIRCULATED UNTIL SUCH TIME GOJ RELEASES FINAL TEXT.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WHALES, FISHERIES MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973124/aaaaacqz.tel
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Type: TE
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